

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I should stand here covered with chagrin after that vicious attack by Senator Merle Von Minden but I would like to point out to Senator Von Minden that if we get back to \$10, that is where we started five years ago back before he was a member of this body. The \$10 fee was the original part of my bill. I think it should have stayed there. I would like to point out that the average of the parks fees in the states surrounding Nebraska is \$14.50. Colorado, I believe, is \$15 or \$20. Kansas is \$15. South Dakota is \$10. I want to say once again that regardless of the inequities he might point out that I still defend the poor and the aged and the handicapped and I will continue to do so and I would hope that those people would be able to get out to the parks once in awhile and enjoy them. But unless we have adequate funding, they are not going to be there. We are not going to provide these funds from the general fund. We have demonstrated that many times. We also have found a great increase in the utilization of our parks. We have found tremendous improvement in the park systems. It is one of the lowest cost forms of family entertainment available to us. I don't know, I haven't been to a movie in many, many years but they tell me the price for a movie is \$3.50 or \$4 and I would suggest that certainly a year, a full year's sticker on an automobile or any vehicle is not an inconsiderate sum at \$10. I have seen a number of these vehicles, as has been pointed out here, a motor home, \$30,000 motor home with a scooter on the front that cost \$1,000 and a car behind that cost several thousand. I suggest that if we are going to travel in that kind of style that someone has to pay the bill. I can tell you very frankly that many of the people who visit our parks would just as soon that we didn't allow the motorcycles in there that has been roaring around the parks at night sometimes distressing persons who want to enjoy the serenity of that atmosphere. I would hope that you would adopt the \$10 fee, advance the bill, and try to keep the high quality parks system we have at the present time and to continue to improve it. Without that parks fee, we are not going to be able to maintain those parks in the style in which you have become accustomed. I would like to point out also that these funds are not going to be coming about instantaneously. It is going to take time for them to be coming available, and so if you want to do anything for the parks system, you had